

Tough question brings smiles at meeting

By Maj. Kevin Inglin
7th MPAD

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq - Families at Fort Hood were treated to a visit from a familiar face, make that faces, during a live Town Hall meeting conducted via satellite from Baghdad Feb. 22.

Brig. Gen. John Campbell, the Multi-National Division - Baghdad deputy commanding general for maneuver, with assistance from other members of the division's command group, addressed a crowd of more than 320 family members in Texas from the Media Operations Center here.

After brief opening remarks that included thanks to the families and central Texas community for their continued support of the troops, Campbell took questions from the audience. When asked a "hardball" question from Phelps, however, Campbell turned to his counter-



(Photo by Sgt. Colby Hauser 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs)

More than 300 Soldiers, family members and community leaders look on as Brig. Gen. John F. Campbell, the 1st Cavalry Division's deputy commanding general for maneuver, addresses them live from Baghdad via satellite during the division's monthly Town Hall meeting Feb. 21 at the Fort Hood Catering and Conference Center.

parts from the MND-B command group for assistance.

A member of the Fort Hood audience asked if the tour length for the 1st Cavalry Division headquarters would

be impacted based on the recent announcement that Fort Stewart's 3rd Infantry Division headquarters will be flowing into theater in the coming months, the deputy commander

looked to support from a "higher authority."

"I'm going to have to defer

See **Faces** Page 2

Girls' school benefits from Iraqi Army, coalition support

By Spc. L.B. Edgar,
7th MPAD

BAGHDAD - The life of an Iraqi girl was forever changed in the chaotic aftermath following an improvised explosive device attack. The Hamid Shaban neighborhood in the district of Abu Ghraib was the target, but an innocent girl was inadvertently the victim. Tragically, a stray round from an Iraqi Army soldier, fired in defense, missed its mark and struck the harmless child at play.

In a gesture of good will Iraqi Army

soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, visited the wounded youngster's place of learning, the Hamid Shaban Girl's School, to provide humanitarian assistance Feb. 15.

Though money and supplies won't remove the bullet, the gesture does help the healing process, said the combat medic who evaluated the girl, Spc. Zachary Bosh, who is attached to the military transition team (MiTT) supporting the Iraqi battalion, which is based on Forward Operating Base Constitution.

"She was shot through the side and they

believe the bullet stopped by her spine. They can't do surgery here at the local hospitals because their technology and funds aren't good enough," said the native of Pittsburgh. "She just wanted to know if we could help her get better. She wants to be a normal kid. She wants to run. She wants to walk without people assisting her."

Removing the bullet may cause paralysis because of the bullet's proximity to the girl's spinal cord, but for now she can walk

See **School** Page 5

Campbell hits hardball out of the park with humor

Faces

From Page 1

that to somebody else," said the general as he held up a photo cutout of Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr., the commanding general, MND-B, in front of his face.

"General Fil told me he doesn't want to answer that question, so I'm going to defer that to another person," continued Campbell, as he held up another photo, this one of Brig. Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, the MND-B deputy commanding general for support.

Campbell went on to display two additional photo cutouts - the MND-B senior noncommissioned officer, Command Sgt. Maj. Philip Johndrow made an appearance, as did his ever-present sidekick, the Cav Kid.

The cutouts were met with rousing applause and laughter from the family members in attendance at Fort Hood, highlighting the interactive component of the satellite connection.

The meeting was made possible through use of the division's Digital Video and Imagery Distribution System, or DVIDS, and allowed the deputy commander to interact with the family mem-

bers in real time.

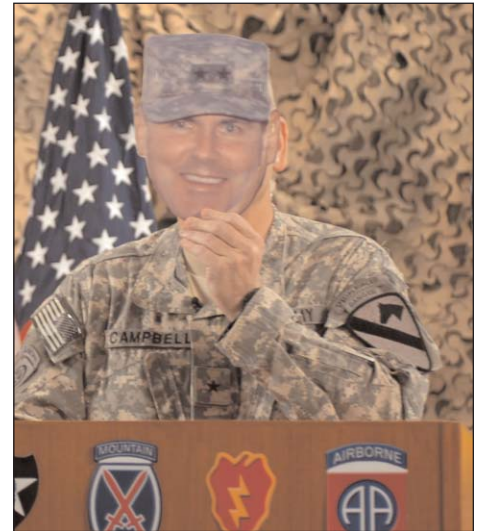
The meeting was conducted at 6:30 p.m., at the Fort Hood Catering and Community Center Feb. 21, which meant an early morning for Campbell -- 3:30 a.m. Baghdad time.

Col. Larry Phelps, rear detachment commander, 1st Cavalry Division, relayed questions ranging from what kind of living conditions Soldiers could expect at the new Joint Security Stations going up throughout Baghdad, and how the security situation is changing for Soldiers stationed outside of Baghdad, to what types of items Soldiers most need to be sent from home.

"It's important to stay connected to our family members and to provide them with information. We owe that to them," said Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl, MND-B spokesperson and public affairs officer.

The live satellite connectivity allows the unit leadership to interact with their home station in a way that truly makes the family members feel joined with their troops while they are deployed, Bleichwehl added.

The live Town Hall was the second such meeting conducted by 1st Cavalry Division senior leaders since the unit






(Photo by Spc. Jennifer Roux 7th MPAD)

Brig. Gen. John Campbell, deputy commanding general for maneuver, Multi-National Division - Baghdad, "defers" to Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr., commanding general, MND-B, when asked a "hardball" question during a live Town Hall meeting conducted via satellite from Camp Liberty with Fort Hood Feb. 22.

deployed to Baghdad in October. It has become the standard, Bleichwehl said, for how the meetings will be conducted for the duration of the unit's deployment.



Iraq 3-Day Weather Report			
	Today	Tomorrow	Sunday
High: 66 Low: 44	High: 70 Low: 50	High: 70 Low: 50	

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr.
Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl
Command Information Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen
NCOIC, Print Production: Sgt. Michael Garrett
Editor: Spc. Shea Butler
Staff Writers: Sgt. Nicole Kojetin, Spc. L.B. Edgar, Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma, Pfc. Ben Gable, Pfc. William Hatton
Contributing Writers: Maj. Kevin Inglin, Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie, Sgt.

Marcus Butler
Contact the *Daily Charge* at VOIP 242-4093, DSN 318-847-2855 or e-mail david.j.larsen@mnd-b.army.mil.
The Daily Charge is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *Daily Charge* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of the *Daily Charge* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie 2-10 Mtn. Public Affairs)

Cpl. Clayton Carroll , a driver with 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) and native of Pleasanton, Calif., patrols the streets of Martyrs Market as local nationals buy and sell items in Mahmudiyah, Iraq Feb. 14.

Mahmudiyah Market Reopens

**By Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie
2-10 Mtn. Public Affairs**

MAHMUDIYAH, Iraq - Last July, innocent women and children were killed here when terrorists attacked one of the only places that thrived with livelihood - the Mahmudiyah Marketplace.

Since the attack, which killed more than 40 Iraqis and wounded more than 100, Iraqis and coalition forces worked together to rebuild the market.

Local Iraqis gathered at the Mahmudiyah Marketplace, now named the Martyrs Market in remembrance of the local nationals killed during the July attack, for the grand opening Feb. 14.

"Today we are sending a message to the terrorists that whatever they have destroyed we (the Iraqis) will, and are continuing, to rebuild it," said Moyad Alamery, the mayor of Mahmudiyah. "Today is a happy day."

The opening of the market signified hope to the once terror-stricken area.

"Our store has been open for just a short while," said Muthana, an Iraqi vendor, as he stocked the shelves of his store. "We had spent months repairing our store from the terrorist attack, but we are up and running."

Muthana, like many store owners had to repair the damage caused from the July attack. The repairs in his shop ranged any-

where from holes in the ceiling to cracks in the walls - totaling 3 million dinar to fix.

Although Muthana and other Iraqi vendors had the funds to fix their store, many other Iraqis did not since their small store was their only mean of survival.

"We helped the people with repairs to their stores by facilitating the projects the contractors worked on," said Taliv Abbas Jasim, the city council president. "We are helping to improve the quality of life and provide basic services such as water and electricity to the people."

As the market was being built up again, terrorists still tried to stop the progress. Mortars were fired towards the area and bombs were set; however, the Iraqis pushed on - fighting for a better Iraq.

Wanting to provide for their own, Iraqi government officials worked with coalition forces to help get the market open again.

"We coordinated the contractor work and helped to provide security when necessary during the renovation (period)," said Lt. Col. Bob Morschauser, a native of Fairless Hills, Pa., who serves as the commander for the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery, Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

The market, which currently consists of 92 stores, was built with extra security precautions to ensure the safety of local nationals.

Baghdad in Brief

Coalition aircraft neutralizes five insurgents

CAMP TAJI, Iraq - A coalition aircraft engaged and destroyed a vehicle here Feb. 20 killing five insurgents who had fired weapons from their vehicle toward the base.

An aircraft from the 1st Cavalry Division's 1st Air Cavalry Brigade engaged the vehicle shortly after Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, serving as tower guards, reported the drive-by shooting.

The Soldiers saw small arms fire and five men pointing weapons out the windows of the vehicle. The vehicle was destroyed. No U.S. Soldiers were killed or wounded during the incident.

Nine suspects seized near Euphrates River

COMBINED PATROL BASE DRAGON, Iraq - Nine local men were detained by Multi-National Division - Baghdad troops when their vehicles were spotted at a boat launch site on the Euphrates River Feb. 22.

Scouts from the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) saw several vehicles parked at the launch site and noted that they matched descriptions of vehicles used in terrorist acts. The scouts approached, apprehending nine men. Three others escaped by swimming across the river.

The Soldiers of 2-14th destroyed the vehicles that were on the watch list. The nine suspects were detained for further questioning.



Safety first, Soldiers always

Flight line operations keep missions moving

By Sgt. Marcus Butler
4-25 Inf. Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq - The sounds of helicopter rotor blades can be heard day and night here. Each helicopter is flying in and out in different directions and heading to different missions.

The sole mission of the Arrivals and Departure Air Control Group is to direct where these helicopters go, land and who gets on board.

The ADACG is the point of entry and return for every person, package and piece of equipment that leaves or arrives on the FOB.

"We control all movement involving personnel and equipment and aircraft that come to Kalsu," said Spc. Megan May, motor transport operator from the 725th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division. "We understand that everyone has a mission to accomplish and that is our job to help them accomplish that mission."

Everyday operations at the ADACG are centered on customer service and safety.

With countless air missions being conducted, being proficient in both areas is a big task. And like any job involving person to person contact, having good customer service skills is a must.

"We assist personnel when they fly into Kalsu with what they essentially need upon arriving," said May. "If they are new to Kalsu, we point them in the right direction to where



(U.S. Army photo)

Soldiers load a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, one of the many missions that start and end at the Arrivals and Departure Air Control Group on Forward Operating Base Kalsu.

they need to go. We escort them to billeting, call the receiving unit or if they are here for a day or so, we let them know what time to be back for their next flight. Also, if they are not manifested for a flight, we take them to the 4th BCT personnel office to get them on the flight."

With a busy flight line to run, safety is a major concern, something the ADACG needs to get right every day.

"At times, the ADACG can get really busy," said Pfc. John Masters, a motor transport operator with 725th BSB working with the ADACG. "We facilitate passengers on and off the aircraft while controlling and constricting their movement on the flight line so they

don't get hurt. Safety on the flight line is a big issue, so we always think safety first."

With any job, some unexpected events will occur to challenge the established routine of its personnel. At the ADACG, surprises come more often than not.

"We get a lot of surprises here," said May. "Sometimes we get high ranking officers and noncommissioned officers arriving without notice. We also have paratroopers who come to us without being on a flight and we have find room for them. We do not panic; we just deal with the situation and take care of the Soldiers that come through the ADACG."

Handling so many air mis-

sions a day, the ADACG personnel are always focused on accomplishing their own mission objective.

"It is a give and take relationship working at the ADACG," said Masters. "For the simple reason that you are dealing with people."

"We have to keep a good relationship with the pilots and crews to assure that if there is a special request needed, that it will be taken care of," Masters added.

Accomplishing their mission may involve a lot of moving parts, but boils down to one thing - get personnel on the correct aircraft, at the correct time and going in the right direction.

School, community benefits from military support

School

From Page 1

with assistance and maintains movement of her limbs, Bosh said.

The battalion operations officer, Lt. Col. abar, lead the humanitarian assistance mission and spoke with the girl, as well as her school's principal.

"He's making peace with the situation. He's talking to the family, the friends and her. He is trying to see what we can do to help them." Bosh said of the Iraqi colonel. "Money won't bring back the bullet, but it eases the situation."

The Iraqi girl was not the only student who benefited from the visit.

The Iraqi troops brought shoes, toys and stuffed animals for the 1,300 girls, students attending grades 6th through 12th, said Lt. Col Ryan Rydalch, the MiTT chief for the battalion.

"The big thing here is to get the people to trust the Iraqi Army," said the native of Rexburg, Idaho.

Virtually the only Iraqi government presence the residents of Hamid Shaban see are members of the Iraqi Army. The goal of humanitarian assistance missions is to develop the Iraqi Army as a problem-solving entity for the Iraqi government, Rydalch said.

One sign of progress came when a neighborhood dispute was peacefully resolved when Jabar acted as a mediator. A



(Photo by Spc. L.B. Edgar 7th MPAD)

Umm Zahrah, the principal of Hamid Shaban Girl's School sits with a student who was accidentally wounded and a teacher during a visit from Iraqi Army troops and a U.S. military transition team Feb. 15.

woman approached Jabar and informed him she had received a notice of eviction from someone who did not own the property she was occupying, Bosh said.

"Today we had a civilian come up to him (Jabar) and discuss a housing dispute. I don't think that would have happened six weeks ago. They would not have had the confidence in the Iraqi Army to do that," Rydalch said.

Restoring the faith of Iraqi citizens in their armed forces is just one of the missions for MiTTs, which are "... a major part of the plan to allow U.S. forces to exit Iraq in an orderly fashion," Rydalch said.

The MiTT troops, a unit of American active duty and reserve component Soldiers, assists, advises and supports the

restoration of the Iraq's security forces, Rydalch said.

"I think the idea of the MiTT is absolutely outstanding. When done right, it is probably the best tool in the war right now. The MiTT teams are helping the country build itself back up. The people (need to) trust the IA and know they're going to do things essential to getting the country up and running," Bosh said.

One sign of the progress between Iraqi troops and the local community is the school itself.

Students of the Hamid Shaban Girl's School had completed testing the day of the humanitarian assistance mission. Thanks to the Iraqi Army, the security situation had improved enough in Hamid Shaban to allow the school to reopen.

The 1,300 students are able to receive an education denied to them just a year ago, Rydalch noted.

"That's definitely progress," Rydalch said. "It probably won't make any news story or broadcast, but I think it helps the school. It definitely helps the security of the neighborhood the school is located in."

Though one little girl was a victim of Hamid Shaban's security challenge, she continues to attend the community's school, which is a sign of progress. However, she goes to school every day with a bullet lodged in her back as evidence there is work yet to be done.

TELEVISION



	8:00p.m.	8:30p.m.	9:00p.m.	9:30p.m.	10:00p.m.	10:30p.m.	11:00p.m.
	Inside the NBA	NFL Total Access		Sportscenter		Men's College Basketball	
	Prime News Tonight	NBC Nightly News	ABC World News	Sesame Street		The View	
	Special Report with Brit Hume	Your World with Neil Cavuto		World News Now		ATS Regional News	